

INVENTORY OF SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT IN- TRODUCTION DURING THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1914 (NO. 39; NOS. 37647 TO 38665).

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

This inventory, which covers the quarter closing just before the outbreak of the European war, is the largest and contains the most variedly interesting plant material which has come in during any quarter since the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction was organized in 1898. It describes or lists 1,019 introductions, which is an average of more than 13 for each official working day, and a perusal of the notes will give a good idea of the world-wide operations of this office. It might be interesting to point out that a large amount of the material which is brought in is secured by the operations of an exchange system. During the year, for example, 537 shipments of seeds or plants were sent to official and special private experimenters abroad. The office is becoming, in fact, an international office of seed and plant exchange, which, in many instances, has been of as much value to foreign agriculturists as to the American farmer.

To look over such catalogues as this—of a thousand different plants—is, even to experiment-station men, so much of an undertaking that with the first inventory, published in 1898, the custom was established of mentioning in an introductory statement the more apparently promising and interesting introductions described. There are so many which deserve special mention in this one that the writer has attempted a rough classification of them.

CEREALS.

From the large number of cereals which have come in for trial or have been gathered for the monographic studies of experimenters with these crops, there might be mentioned the introduction of the

NOTE.—This bulletin is a record of new or little-known seeds or plants procured mostly from abroad. It is intended for distribution to agricultural experiment stations and the more important private cooperators.